

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A method for providing a secure data channel between a user and one or more associates, comprising ~~the steps of~~:

- (a) receiving at a processing server, from the user, at least one of
 - user profile information,
 - a user identification,
 - a user acceptance, and/and/or
 - a hardware signature;
- (b) receiving pushed information from the associate, including at least one of
 - an update to said user profile information,
 - related information, and/and/or
 - personalized content for the user; and
- (c) conveying, to the user, personal information including a selectable union of at least one of
 - said user profile information,
 - said related information, and/and/or
 - said personalized content; and
- (d) sharing access to said personal information to a family, wherein said family comprises at least one of:
 - a plurality of users; and/or
 - a plurality of related users.

2. (currently amended) The method according to ~~step~~ claim 1, wherein said step (c) is conveyed to said user using at least one of:

- a web interface,
- an interactive voice response (IVR) system,

a wireless access device,
a synchronized device,
an interactive television (TV) device,
a palm-top computing device,
a computer system,
a thin client,
a personal digital assistant (PDA),
a computing device,
a communications device, and/or
any other device having at least one of direct and indirect access to the Internet.

3. (cancelled)

4. (cancelled)

5. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said associate can include at least one of:

a business,
an organization,
an affiliated association,
an unaffiliated association, and/or
any other association between a repository of data and the user whose specific data is contained within said repository.

6. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said associate can include at least one of:

a manufacturer,
a distributor,
a retailer,
a service provider,
a non-profit,
a sports franchise,
an information provider,
a news agency,
a content provider,
a television program,
a movie,
an entertainment, and/and/or
an agency.

7. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:
~~(d)~~(e) providing cumulative aggregate user profile information to said association.

8. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said pushed information can include at least one of:

textual data,
digitized audio data,
digitized video data,
graphical image data, and/and/or
other data.

9. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said pushed information can include at least one of:

prescription information,
automobile service information,
purchased product information,
sports information,
television programming information,
deductions information,
travel reservation information,
charitable contribution information,
encrypted information,
financial information,
membership information,
educational information,
voicemail messages, and/or
any information related to the user.

10. (currently amended) A system for providing a secure data channel comprising:

a processing server operative to receive at least one of

user profile information,
user identification,
user acceptance, and/or
a hardware signature;

one or more associates operative to convey at least one of

updates of said user profile,
related information, and/or

pushed personalized content information into a database of said processing server; and

_____ a component ~~adapted to provide~~that provides a selectable union of said pushed personalized content with said user profile information for conveyance to a user, and adapted to share access to said personalized content information to a family, wherein said family comprises at least one of: a plurality of users; or a plurality of related users.

11. (currently amended) A groupware computer program product for displaying personalized user information provided by a secure data channel between a user and one or more associates, wherein said computer program product is embodied on a ~~computer machine~~ readableusable medium and includes program logic comprising:

a groupware display module operative to enable a processor to display an associates list to the user,

_____ wherein said associates list is operative to enable said processor to access a user selectable union of pushed personalized content relating to the user from said one or more associates, and adapted to share access to said pushed personalized content to a family, wherein said family comprises at least one of: a plurality of users; or a plurality of related users.

12. (currently amended) An instant message service computer program product for displaying personalized user information provided by a secure data channel between a user and one or more associates, wherein said computer program product is embodied on a ~~computer usable~~ machine readable medium and includes program logic comprising:

an instant message service display module operative to enable a processor to display an associates list to the user,

wherein said associates list is operative to enable said processor to access a user selectable union of pushed personalized content relating to the user from said one or more associates, and adapted to share access to said pushed personalized content to a family, wherein said family comprises at least one of: a plurality of users; or a plurality of related users.

13. (currently amended) An inflight entertainment (IFE) portal computer program product for displaying personalized user information provided by a secure data channel between a user and one or more associates, wherein said computer program product is embodied on a computer usable medium and includes program logic comprising:

an IFE display module operative to enable a processor to display an associates list to the user,

wherein said associates list is operative to enable said processor to access a user selectable union of pushed personalized content relating to the user from said one or more associates, and adapted to share access to said pushed personalized content to a family, wherein said family comprises at least one of: a plurality of users; or a plurality of related users.

14. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein said sharing access to said personal information to said family comprises:

sharing said personal information with at least one of:

an extended family;
a group of co-workers;
a social club;
a sports team;
an organization; and/or
a religious family.